

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW TIGER-BEETLE FROM
NORTH-WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

BY THOMAS G. SLOANE.

CICINDELA GILESI, n.sp.

Elongate-oval. Glabrous (including sternal side-pieces and posterior coxæ), legs (including four anterior coxæ) clothed with white hairs. Head, prothorax, and undersurface cupreous (sixth ventral segment in ♂ bronzy, in ♀ brownish); labrum and base of mandibles lacteous; palpi pallid, apical joint viridescent; legs æneous, coxæ and apex of femora dark testaceous; front in ♂ bright green, in ♀ cupreous; antennæ with four basal joints cupreous; elytra cream-coloured, with suture and two longitudinal stripes on each elytron cupreous, inner discal stripe uniting with the sutural stripe beside scutellum, and with outer stripe at apex (sutural stripe reaching apex of elytra, discal stripes terminating some distance from the apical margin).

♂. Head shagreened, 2.6 mm. across eyss. Labrum truncate at apex; lateral angles rounded; four submarginal setæ in a transverse row. Prothorax small, broader than long (1.7 × 2.1 mm.), wide across base (2 mm.); sides lightly arcuate on anterior half; apex arcuate (very slightly prominent in middle); base truncate; pronotum depressed, shagreened, transversely impressed before and behind, posterior transverse impression limited at each end by the antebasal nodes; these nodes near basal margin, prominent, obtuse, truncate behind. Elytra oval (6 × 3.5 mm.); each elytron at apex separately roundly produced, a very short mucro at end of suture.

♀. Differs from ♂ by the larger size; front cupreous; labrum with a very small triangular prominence on each side of middle; prothorax widest across basal nodes (1.7 × 2.6 mm.), basal nodes

more prominent and preceded by a light lateral sinuosity, base emarginate; elytra (6.5 × 4) with sutural mucrones stronger.

Length, ♂ 10, ♀ 10.5; breadth, ♂ 3.5, ♀ 4 mm.

Hab.—Western Australia, Condon (discovered by Mr. H. M. Giles, of the Zoological Gardens, Perth, at Condon, where it was plentiful. Four specimens (3 ♂, 1 ♀) have been examined).

This is the species which I had taken to be *C. tetragramma* Boisd., when I described *C. lineifera* (These Proceedings, 1913, p.401). Dr. Walther Horn, of Berlin, to whom I sent a cotype of my *C. lineifera*, has assured me that *C. lineifera* Sl., is the true *C. tetragramma* Boisd., and I recognise that his view is the correct one. I have not now a specimen of *C. tetragramma* Boisd., for comparison, but my note on *C. lineifera* shows that *C. gilesi*(♀) differs from *C. tetragramma*(♀) by the metallic colour being cupreous, not viridiæneous; prothorax not roundly ampliate on sides, not narrowed at base, lateral basal nodes much more strongly developed.

C. trivittata Macl., and *C. albolineata* Macl., are distinct species, differing from one another, and from *C. tetragramma* Boisd., and *C. gilesi* Sl. I have compared *C. gilesi*(♀) with the type-specimen(♀) of *C. trivittata*, and the type-specimens (two females) of *C. albolineata* in the Macleay Museum. From *C. trivittata* (which I had wrongly concluded to be a variety of *C. tetragramma*, cf. These Proceedings, 1906, p.320), *C. gilesi* differs by pattern of elytra (discal cupreous stripes not linked together by two bars); prothorax with basal nodes less prominent, stouter and far more obtuse at apex, not evidently in front of basal margin and not with a marked sinuosity behind them.

From *C. albolineata*, *C. gilesi* differs by pattern of elytra (not with a broad metallic sutural area common to both elytra behind scutellum); prothorax with lateral basal nodes far more prominent, pronotum far less strongly and closely shagreened; labrum not rounded or subprominent in middle of anterior margin, only four submarginal setæ in a transverse row (not one on each side and from four to six in middle).

It will be useful to note here, that the valid species of the *tetragramma*-group of the genus *Cicindela* are, at the present time,

the following, viz., *C. tetragramma* Boisd., (= *C. macleayi* Cast., = *C. lineifera* Sl.), *C. trivittata* Macl., *C. albotineata* Macl., *C. aurita* Sl., *C. queenslandica* Sl., and *C. gilesi* Sl.

I take advantage of the present occasion to draw attention to the fact, that Dr. Walther Horn has recently described three new forms of *Cicindela* from Australia in the "Archiv für Naturgeschichte," 1913—*C. sparsim-pilosa*, n.sp., Darwin; *C. iosceles* Hope, subsp. *setoso-abdominalis*, n.subsp., Darwin; and *C. nigrina* Macl., subsp. *rugicollis*, Australia.